

SECRET

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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

OLC #78-2175

1 June 1978

CA

The Honorable Birch Bayh
Chairman, Select Committee
on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Over the past week or so there have been a number of articles in the press concerning intelligence. I would like to ensure that you and your Committee have the full story on these where they may have given some incorrect impressions. Rather than wait for an opportunity to brief your Committee in person, I thought I would take this opportunity to provide you some brief written comments.

25X1 One set of stories concerned the allegation that I had visited Senator Clark without authorization in order to propose a specific plan of covert action [redacted] I did visit Senator Clark at the express direction of the National Security Council. The objective was not to present a specific covert action plan but to explore the meaning of the "Clark Amendment." I cited examples of what might be undertaken if there were no Clark Amendment, but made it clear that the National Security Council has not approved any specific covert action plan.

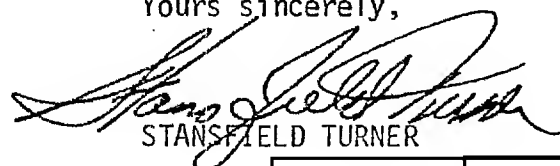
25X1 Another story concerned our inability to act with respect to [redacted] The facts here are that we were being very scrupulous in ensuring that any actions we took were fully in accord with the Presidential findings with respect to combating international terrorism. There was a fine line to be drawn [redacted]

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Hope this will help with any inquiries you may receive.

Yours sincerely,


STANSFIELD TURNER

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